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letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
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SUPPLEMENT

[illegible]

4. PWs released from Camp 148/2 in Kreslavka, fifty kilometers east of Duenaburg*, state that there were 6,000 prisoners detained there in mid-June 1947. In late January 1947, the PWs were asked repeatedly to join the Soviet Army and were promised new clothing and special rations. Only a small number of PWs responded to this offer.

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NO CHANGE in class.

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Class CHANGED TO:

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 11 Aug 78 By: _____

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5. In March 1947, approximately 2,000 PWs of a camp at Rumsiskes, thirty kilometers east of Kaunas, volunteered for anti-partisan duty. Split into units, they were commanded by German officers who in turn were supervised by Soviet officers. At the end of March, these troops went into action around Meresch, seventy kilometers north of Grodno. The total strength of German and Russian troops operating in this area was 10,000. After an advance into the region south of Grodno, the Russians had to retreat when the partisans, equipped with multiple rocket launchers and tommyguns, received reinforcements from Smalki.
6. In May 1947, 15,000 Soviet troops launched an all-out attack on the partisans in the Kernowak area, east of Kaunas. They were to be joined by German volunteer units, but [redacted] approximately seventy-five percent of these volunteers either escape or go over to the partisans.

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([redacted] Comment: [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] Meresch cannot be located but, according to the location given above, is probably synonymous with Merkine [redacted]

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